

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT TOPIC Military Activities in the Area of the Eighth Gds ArmyEVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED  25X1DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 22 April 1955REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS 

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 4 March 1955, the Flak Kaserne (8241) in Leipzig-Schoenau was occupied by approximately 1,000 soldiers including 750 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery, tank and motor transport insignia and 250 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets including some with artillery insignia. 1
2. On 2 March, an M-13 rocket launcher was seen at the sand table area 2 km northeast of the installation. An officer and 4 soldiers practiced firing with a rifle which was attached to the lower side of the guide rails of the rocket launcher. One soldier turned the handle of the elevating mechanism on the left side of the launcher and a second soldiers fired with the rifle at a target in the large sand table. 1
3. On 11 March, the Infanterie Kaserne (8521) in Weissenfels was apparently occupied to capacity. Three buildings were occupied by some 800 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. Twelve 57-mm AT guns and 13 x 85-mm mortars were observed. Another building was occupied by 250 soldiers of an AT unit who wore black-bordered red epaulets including 100 soldiers with artillery insignia. Twelve 85-mm AT guns were seen with the unit. A fifth building quartered 250 to 300 soldiers of an AAA unit who wore black-bordered red epaulets. Thirty to 40 percent of the soldiers wore artillery insignia. Nine 37-mm AA guns and 3 artillery fire control devices were seen with the unit.
4. On 11 March, the Pionier Kaserne (8522) in Weissenfels appeared to be occupied to capacity. One building quartered a driving school with an estimated 160 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets and 80 to 100 soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets. Three other buildings quartered some 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including 400 soldiers with tank insignia, 200 soldiers with artillery insignia and 200 soldiers with motor transport insignia. On 11 and 13 March, 3 SU-100 guns with covered turret numbers and T-34/85 tanks  were seen in the installation. 25X1

The occupation of this and the above-mentioned installation did not change after the fall of 1954. 2

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5. A railroadman stated that the departure of the units from the Weimar post to the summer camps was to start on 7 April. 3
6. Between 25 and 30 March, the Flak Kaserne (8501) in Weimar was occupied by an AAA unit of about 350 soldiers, a tank unit of about 250 soldiers and a motor transport unit of about 100 soldiers. Eight 85-mm AA guns and 12 T-34 tanks were seen.
7. Between 25 and 30 March, the Nachrichten Kaserne (8504) in Weimar was occupied as previously by a signal unit of about 500 soldiers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets. The Buchenwald concentration camp (8508) was occupied by 250 to 300 engineer soldiers.
8. Between 25 and 30 March, the Tannenberg Kaserne (8502) in Weimar was occupied by 200 to 300 soldiers of a motor transport unit and 1,200 to 1,300 soldiers of mortar, artillery and AT units. Twelve 120-mm mortars, 3 x 160-mm mortars, 4 x 85-mm AT guns and 8 other guns were seen in the installation.
9. The Luetzendorf Kaserne (8503) in Weimar was occupied by some 800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 350 signal soldiers, 200 soldiers of an AAA unit and 150 men of a motor transport unit. 4
10. In the evening of 31 March, approximately 15 trucks with soldiers, 8 AT guns and 5 x 160-mm mortars returned to the Tannenberg Kaserne from a 1-day exercise. 4
11. Between 25 and 29 March, the Kindel training grounds was occupied by only a guard detail of 100 men. Sixty to 70 men were quartered in the cantonment at Craulaer Holz and 30 to 40 soldiers in the Mittellager near Highway No 84. No firing practices were held. There were no indications of an occupation of the training grounds. The area was also patrolled by sedans occupied by 4 soldiers. These details were furnished by the border area headquarters stationed in the Panzer Kaserne (8082) in Eisenach. 5
12. As a result of poor weather conditions, the construction of the airfield made only little progress. An undetermined number of bunkers had been constructed in the western state forest behind Hainaer Holz. 6

1. ☐ Comment. The installation is believed to be still occupied by the 94th Gds RL Regt of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps, the 19th Gds Mecz Regt of the 8th Gds Mecz Div and an unidentified AAA Regt of the 13th AAA Div. Firing practice with rocket launchers in the described manner is reported for the first time.

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2. ☐ Comment. This is a summary of observations made during the preceding months. The AT unit with 12 x 85-mm AT guns may be the AT Bn of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div which, according to previous information, was believed to be stationed in Gotha. The information also indicated that the 932d AAA Bn, which had been believed to be stationed in the Pionier Kaserne, is now stationed in the Infanterie Kaserne. The information does not indicate any change in the location of the 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt and the 17th Gds Tank SP Regt.

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3. ☐ Comment. No information has been received from other posts in the zone on so early a transfer to the training grounds. It is believed that the transfer will start only after the inspection of recruits as in preceding years. 25X1
4. ☐ Comment. The information does not indicate major changes in the occupation of the military installations of the Weimar post. Tanks of the 65th Gds Mecz Regt have been observed in the Flak Kaserne previously. The Luetzendorf Kaserne possibly quarters elements of the 2504th AAA Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. The weapons which were observed in the Tannenberg Kaserne are quite definitely believed to belong to the 65th Gds Mecz Regt and the 581st Gds Mort Regt. It can, however, not be determined to which of the two units the weapons were assigned except for the 160-mm mortars which undoubtedly belong to the mortar regiment. This observation confirms that the reequipment with horitzers was not yet completed. The 120-mm mortars may belong to the 65th Gds Mecz Regt. It is possible that the equipment of the mortar battalion of this regiment included more 120-mm mortars than prior to the reequipment. 25X1
5. ☐ Comment. The Panzer Kaserne in Eisenach quarters a headquarters of a German border police Bereitschaft. Generally, the number of Soviet border guard battalions employed at the border corresponds to the number of Grenzbereitschaften. It is believed that the Panzer Kaserne also quartered the headquarters of one of these battalions. 25X1
6. ☐ Comment. The purpose of the newly constructed bunkers is undetermined. 25X1

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